decided in favour of such a force, it could seek the cooperation of a group of like-minded Member States or the Organization of American States (OAS). They could establish a multinational or inter-American force to help create a secure and stable environment in Haiti and implement the Governors Island Agreement.

Alternatively, the Council could divide the work in Haiti between a mulitnational or inter-American force and UNMIH, the Secretary-General said. Once such a force had established a secure and stable environment, the Mission could be deployed to carry out its original mandate.

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Up to a million Rwandan refugees who have flooded Zaire over the last five days face a humanitarian disaster unless the fighting stops and the exodus is reversed, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sadako Ogata has warned. She said humanitarian organizations could not cope unless there was an immediate cease-fire and people were given assurances that they could return home -- or stay home -- safely.

Meanwhile, the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) today said a de facto cease-fire already existed, according to a United Nations spokesman. A formal cease-fire might be declared tomorrow, when a broad-based government of national unity is expected to be sworn in.

In a related development, the World Food Programme (WFP) warned of a major humanitarian and ecological disaster in southern Rwanda before the end of the month. A WFP emergency which visited Gikongoro and Cyangugu estimated that 500,000 displaced people were settling randomly in the area, destroying woods and exhausting local food supplies.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali met with the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq, Tariq Aziz, on Friday and stressed that the country must comply fully with all Security Council resolutions. Mr. Aziz briefed the Secretary-General on the steps taken by Iraq towards compliance, as reported by Ambassador Rolf Ekeus to the Council and as stated in the joint statement issued after talks in Baghdad on 4 and 5 July. The Deputy Prime Minister also reiterated his Government's view that the progress achieved should be acknowledged by the United Nations.

In a related development, United States Permanent Representative Madeline Albright today said there was only scant evidence that Iraq was prepared to carry out its obligations under Council resolutions. There had been minimal compliance with regard to weapons of mass destruction, and defiance with regard to other requirements. It would be premature to discuss the terms and timing of modifying the Council's sanctions regime against Iraq, she concluded.

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The United Nations must drop the areas of development which it is not good at and identify those areas where it has a comparative advantage, according to Economic and Social Council President Richard Butler (Australia). He was briefing correspondents today on the Council's consideration of the Secretary-General's "An Agenda for Development". Mr. Butler said the Organization had the unique ability to build a consensus for globally relevant political decisions. However, its machinery must operate more efficiently, particularly at Headquarters, if it were to take advantage of the current opportunity to reshape development strategies.

Mr. Butler said the efforts of the United Nations and other major actors in development must be rationalized. With the right policies, the Organization could mobilize a political consensus that would encourage the allocation of significant resources by major donors. It could set policies and priorities in such areas as population control where private corporations could not. The United Nations should focus its developmental efforts in five key areas: education, health and welfare, rather than just physical infrastructure; poverty as a single issue; women's role in societies and economies; population growth; and the decline in official development assistance (ODA).

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The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Jose Ayala Lasso, has said that statements reflecting disagreements on human rights issues are a good way of presenting different points of views which stress the importance of human rights everywhere. Mr. Ayala Lasso made that comment on Friday after addressing the Economic and Social Council. He also noted that his mandate was to look at human rights as matters of principle and not as political issues.

In his address, Mr. Ayala Lasso stated that one of his greatest challenges was promoting realization of the right to development, which entailed finding better ways to protect economic, social and cultural rights. It was often the violation of those rights which set the stage for violations of civil and political rights -- components of the right to development.

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The Human Rights Commission's Special Rapporteur on the former Yugoslavia, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, has begun a visit to areas under his mandate. Between now and 31 July, he will gather first-hand information on the human rights situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The Special Rapporteur will visit Sarajevo, Mostar and other locations in the new Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He will take up such issues as freedom of movement and human rights aspects of the new Federation Constitution. In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, he will focus on freedom of expression and religion, economic and social rights, and the situation of different nationalities. In Zagreb, will have meetings with

Special Representative Yasushi Akashi, and with representatives of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The Special Rapporteur's findings will be included in an interim report to the Human Rights Commission, which will be made available to the General Assembly and the Security Council. He also plans to release a report on human rights aspects of the situation of the media in the former Yugoslavia.

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